

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No: To Be Assigned
Applicants: Manfred Heinritz et al.
Filed: Herewith
Title: GRADIENT MATERIAL MOLDED BODY
TC/A.U.: Not Yet Known
Examiner: Not Yet Known

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (RP) submitted herewith.

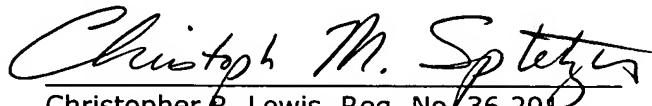
Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of the patents and publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form 1449 are not required to be provided, because they were cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No.10/008,664, filed November 7, 2001, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher R. Lewis, Reg. No. 36,201
Christopher M. Spletzer, Reg. No. 52,240
Attorneys for Applicants

CMS/kak

Enclosure: PTO Form 1449

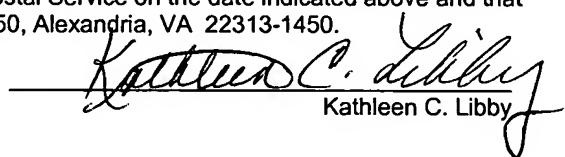
Dated: April 19, 2004

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

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I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Kathleen C. Libby

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<p>Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>	<i>Complete if Known</i>	
	Application Number	To Be Assigned
	Filing Date	Herewith
	First Named Inventor	Manfred Heinritz
	Art Unit	Not Yet Known
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Known
SHEET 1 of 2	Attorney Docket No.	SSM-491US1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				
	9	EP 1 001 040	05/17/2000	Grunow	Entire Document	<input type="checkbox"/>
	10	WO 01/58622	08/16/2001	Holzgruber et al.	Entire Document	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

***For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.**

5Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.
6Serial number of the document if it has been registered.

6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.
collection of information is required by 27 CFR 1.93 and 1.98. The information is

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for Form 1449B/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	To Be Assigned
		Filing Date	Herewith
		First Named Inventor	Manfred Heinritz
		Art Unit	Not Yet Known
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Known
SHEET 2 of 2		Attorney Docket No.	SSM-491US1

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	11	Klaus Schwerdtfeger et al., <i>Metallurgie des Stranggießens: Gießen und Erstarren von Stahl</i> (Düsseldorf: Verlag Stahleisen mbH, 1992), pp. 333-336.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	12	Hans Schrewe, <i>Stranggießen von Stahl: Einführung und Grundlagen</i> (Düsseldorf: Verlag Stahleisen mbH, 1987), pp. 119-120.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	13	Schumann, Hermann: "Metallographie," Veb 1 Deutscher Verlag Für Grunstoffindustrie, Leipzig, p. 231.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	14	Abstract of Japanese Patent No. 59-73150.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	15	European Search Report dated December 27, 2002, from European Application No. 01 12 5434.	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

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